

City of Lincoln
Telecommunications/Cable Television Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes – October 26, 2017

Members Present: Steve Eggland, Kate Engel, Rebecca Henderson, Ed Hoffman, Jim Johnson, Laurie Thomas Lee, Helen Meeks, Yingxiao Song, Art Zygielbaum

Members Absent: Cyndi Lamm, John Neal

City Staff: Diane Gonzolas, Steve Huggenberger, Jamie Wenz, David Young

ALLO/NelNet: Ben Kiser

Charter/Spectrum: Andy Chaves

WindStream/Kinetic: Scott Barnett

Call to Order/Introduction

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by chair Art Zygielbaum. Zygielbaum made note of the copy of the Open Meetings Act at the back of the room. Board members and guests introduced themselves.

Review of Agenda

Agenda was presented. Laurie Thomas Lee moved approval, Ed Hoffman seconded; motion approved 9-0.

Minutes

Minutes of the July 27 meeting were presented. Steve Eggland moved approval, Ed Hoffman seconded; motion approved 9-0.

ALLO report

Ben Kiser from NelNet reported for ALLO/Nelnet. He reported that lots of progress is being made; ALLO is lighting up new neighborhoods and areas each month. It might slow down soon due to winter weather. Some new channels will be announced soon.

Windstream/Kinetic report

Scott Barnett reported for Windstream. He said that there had been a tower collapse at 27th and Superior last week, which took out Fox Channel KFXL. Windstream requested and received permission from Sinclair Broadcasting to put the Lexington KY Fox affiliate on the air; they now have a feed from Omaha Fox affiliate KPTM. They are looking at what long-term options are available.

Charter/Spectrum report

Andy Chaves distributed a written Public Access Coordinator report. He commented that if the board has questions about Charter/Spectrum other than the Public Access studio, he probably would not be able to answer them.

Zygielbaum said that he had talked to Steve Huggenberger, with a question about Public Access channels. It's authorized that we can ask for it in our negotiations. Zygielbaum said that on the Spectrum app on Roku, he has noticed that the app does not have the PEG channels. He had asked Huggenberger if it would be alright to carry the Public Access channels on the app. Zygielbaum said that the app is acting like a cable box; it should have the same functionality as a cable box including those Channels. He would like to approach Spectrum about it. Hoffman said that it sounds like that could be negotiated. Wenz said that he has asked the question of Jarad Falk with the company. Falk said that those channels are not offered in the entire Charter/Spectrum service area of Nebraska, so they did not include on the app. Huggenberger said that he would ask. Hoffman said that it would make a lot of sense to have those channels on the app; he thinks that's where technology is headed. Zygielbaum said that there is a basic change in the technology going on; it's in our interest as a City to have those channels out there. Lee said that it sounds like it's just a programming matter. Hoffman said that we should add the item to our agenda for the January meeting.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Annual performance review of providers

Zygielbaum said that discussions on setting up a performance review haven't been held yet but initial discussions will be held soon.

Subcommittee Reports

Online Complaint Form

Gonzolas said that the committee had met. John Neal wasn't able to join us today, but sent a report. They had met with the City's Information Services department, who said it would fold into the Citizen Action Center on the City Website. It will be powered with

SeeClickFix software. Gonzolas thinks it will work well. We did get approval for the \$5000 in the budget reconciliation if we want to use it. Gonzolas gave a short description of how it would work.

ALLO Nonprofits/WIFI Zones

Huggenberger said that he and David Young had met with Brad Moline to see if Moline had any guidance on how these decisions should be made. Moline has some ideas that they would like to bring forward; he will get a report either to the committee or the board in the next month or two. Zygielbaum asked Huggenberger if he could set up an informal meeting of the committee with Moline and Allo. Huggenberger said that he will try to set up that meeting prior to the next board meeting, probably mid-December. Young said that he thinks we should separate the two conversations (nonprofits and WiFi), because it's probably two different people at the company that will be talking about them.

Website

Gonzolas passed around a demo on the website improvements.

City Report

The City does a survey each year of Lincoln residents, asking questions about various City services. The survey this year and in other recent years included some questions on the Government and Educational Access Channels. Gonzolas distributed copies of the survey results for those questions. She noted that it was a mail survey; that may skew it towards older people.

Gonzolas also distributed the new logo, and a Neighborhood Extra article about the LNKTV-Health channel.

Wenz distributed copies of his report. Gonzolas commented that each month the Mayor honors a City employee; one of this past year's monthly recipients for that honor was Jamie Wenz.

Network testing and report software

David Young said that two different software products will be available for a demo; the committee will meet soon.

Public Comments

None.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Johnson, secretary